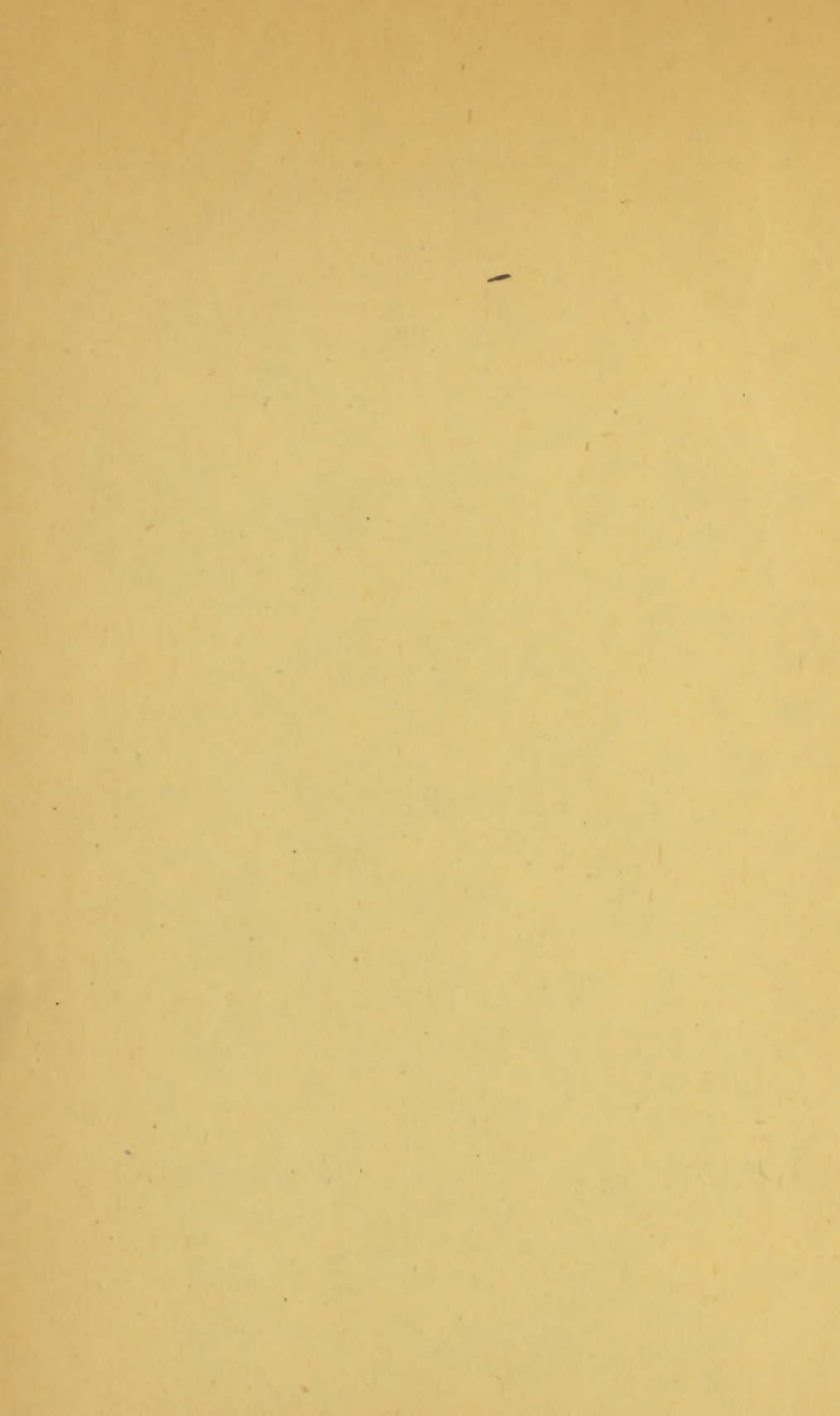


TRIDGWAY (Robt.)

Description of two
supposed new species of Swifts.





DESCRIPTION OF TWO SUPPOSED NEW SPECIES OF SWIFTS.

BY

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Chætura lawrencei, sp. nov.

SP. CHAR.: Similar to *C. guianensis* Hartert, but smaller, longer upper tail-coverts darker (outer web almost wholly glossy blackish), and flanks paler slate-gray, in marked contrast with the glossy black under tail-coverts. Wing, 3.85-4.20; tail (to base of spines), 1.35-1.45.

HABITAT: Grenada, West Indies; also, Tobago, and Trinidad, or Venezuela?

Type, No. 84841, U. S. National Museum, ♀ adult, Grenada, May 7, 1881; J. G. Wells. (Length, $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches, extent of wings, 10 inches.)

An example in the collection of Messrs. Salvin and Godman, of uncertain locality (labeled "Venezuela?") is quite identical with the type in coloration, but is considerably smaller, the length of the wing and tail being the minimum of those given above. It is labeled "*Chætura salvini* Hartert" (unpublished synonym of *C. guianensis* Hartert); but, having a typical specimen of the latter for comparison, from British Guiana, and also five good specimens from Costa Rica and Nicaragua, I feel quite certain it is different, all of the six specimens of *C. guianensis* having wholly gray upper tail-coverts and much darker flanks, the dark gray color of the breast gradually shading into the glossy black of the under tail-coverts.

The two forms are closely allied to *C. cinereiventris* ScL., of Brazil, and the three should probably be considered geographical races of one species rather than distinct species, a more exact idea of their relationship being expressed by the following nomenclature:

1. *Chætura cinereiventris* ScL. Brazil.
2. *Chætura cinereiventris guianensis* (Hartert). Guiana to Nicaragua.
3. *Chætura cinereiventris lawrencei* Ridgw. Grenada; also, Tobago, Trinidad, or Venezuela?

The three forms may be distinguished by the following characters:

- a¹. Belly and flanks light gray, like breast, abruptly contrasted with glossy black of under tail-coverts.
- b¹. Upper tail-coverts black, or with only inner webs edged with gray; rump, lighter gray; larger (wing 4.20-4.30). Hab., Brazil..... *C. cinereiventris*.



- b*². Upper tail-coverts dark gray, with outer webs glossy blackish; rump darker gray; smaller (wing 3.85–4.20). *Hab.*, Grenada, West Indies; also, Tobago, Trinidad, or Venezuela. *C. cinereiventris lawrencei*.
- a*². Belly and flanks blackish gray, not conspicuously different from color of under tail-coverts. Upper tail-coverts with both webs gray, like rump. *Hab.*, Guiana to Nicaragua. *C. cinereiventris guianensis*.

Cypseloides cherriei, sp. nov.

SP. CHAR.: *Adult* (No. 127069, U. S. National Museum, Volcan de Irazú, Costa Rica; George K. Cherrie). Similar in size and general form to *C. brunneitorques* (Lafr.), but tail quite truncated, with feathers less rigid and only very minutely mucronate. Color, uniform sooty black (much darker than in *C. brunneitorques*), the under surface somewhat paler, especially anteriorly, where becoming light grayish on the chin. A large, sharply defined, spot of silky white on each side of the forehead, immediately over the lores, and a short streak of the same color immediately behind the eye; lores velvety black, in very sharp contrast with the white spot above them. Length (skin), 5 inches; wing, 6; tail, 1.87; tarsus, 0.50.

This apparently new species needs no comparison with any other, the peculiar white markings of the head being sufficient to at once distinguish it.

The type specimen was generously presented by the authorities of the Costa Rica National Museum.

